

R. Kent 2/2/04 #8/a

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF

TOSHIO SATO, ET AL. : EXAMINER: BRIGGS, W.

SERIAL NO: 09/880,112

FILED: JUNE 14, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 3722

FOR: ELECTRIC ACTUATOR

## **AMENDMENT**

JAN 0 5 2004
TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3/00

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Office Action dated August 13, 2002, please amend the aboveidentified patent application as follows:

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 1 as shown in the marked-up copy attached to read as follows:

1. (Amended) An electric actuator comprising a feed screw in a shape of a straight rod rotatably supported by a bearing member on a base,

a nut member screwed to said feed screw to reciprocate in an axial direction of said feed screw by normal and reverse rotation of said feed screw,

a transfer table connected to said nut member with a degree of freedom in said axial direction of said feed screw to transfer a workpiece by moving to follow said nut member,

a stepping motor a rotation amount of which can be controlled according to the number of drive pulses,